

Serial No. 09/048,026

Docket No.: 826.1482

#31 H \$/1/04

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kanji UCHINO, et al.

Serial No. 09/048,026

Confirmation No. 3866

Filed: March 26, 1998

Examiner: Cesar B. Paula

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METHOD (AS AMENDED)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 3 0 2004

**Technology Center 2100** 

Sir:

For:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 27, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on January 27, 2004. An RCE, a petition for a two-month extension of time and this Preliminary Amendment are submitted herewith. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.